PRESENT—*cont.*

Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
Tulasiram, Mr. L. K.
Uppi Sahib Bahadur, K.
Vanavudaiya Gounder, Mr. S. V.
Venkatapati Raju, Mr. P. C.
Venkataramana Ayyangar, Mr. C. V.
Venkatrangam Nayudu, Mr. C.
Venkiah, Mr. S.
Watson, I.C.S., Mr. H. A.
Wood, Mr. C. E.
Wright, Mr. W. O.
Zamindar of Gollapalli (Srimannarayana Appa Rao Bahadur Garu, Meka).
Zamindar of Kallikota (Sri Ramachandra Mardaraja Deo).
Zamindar of Mirzapuram (Mirzapuram Raja Garu alias Venkataramayya Appa Rao Bahadur Garu).
Zamindar of Seithur (Vadamalai Tiruvanatha Sevuga Pandiya Tevar Avargal).

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Assignment of lands

Alleged disabilities of the Catholic Churches in South Kanara.

* 1778 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : With reference to the answer given to my question No. 1557 on the 28th February 1929 regarding the alleged disabilities of the Catholic Churches in South Kanara, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to place before the Council the opinion given by their Legal Adviser to the effect that the properties of all Catholic Churches in South Kanara are vested in the Pope and to obtain their opinion on the point whether the said properties are vested in the Pope as owner or Supreme Administrator ?

A.—The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative. As regards the second part of the question, the Government will take legal opinion on the point referred to should they consider it necessary to do so for any purpose.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I know with regard to the first part of the question, what objection is there for Government to place the opinion of the Legal Adviser before this House or to give it to me if it is not a confidential matter ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" Because Government do not think it is in the public interests to publish the opinions given by their Legal Adviser."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" With regard to the second point the answer given is that Government will take legal opinion on the point referred to should they consider it necessary to do so for any purpose ? May I enquire what they mean by ' purpose ' ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" The purpose which Government consider sufficient."

Survey

Districts in which survey and settlement operations are to be taken up in 1929–30.

* 1779 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state in which districts, if any, the survey and settlement operations would be taken up in 1929–30 ?

A.—In 1929–30 survey operations will be taken up in the following districts :—

(1) Ganjam (mainly the survey of Bodhokimedi estate);
(2) West Godavari (canal irrigated non-Government villages of the Ellore taluk);
(3) Tanjore (Cauvery-Mettur project);
(4) Salem (Omalur and Uttangarai taluks);
(5) Malabar (Chirakkal and Calicut taluks); and
(6) South Kanara (Kumari villages).

Settlement operations will be in progress in the following districts :—

East Godavari, West Godavari, Kistna, Salem, Malabar and South Kanara.

Mr. K. V. R. Swami :—" May I know when the settlement operations in the East Godavari and West Godavari districts will be completed ? "

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks :—" They will be completed when the decision is come to regarding the rates."

Mr. D. Narayana Raju :—" May I know whether the present settlement operations will be brought to a close on the basis of the existing rates, leaving the alteration of rates to be dealt with by the ordinary Revenue Establishment ? "

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks :—" That is the idea, but we may probably need some supervising staff for the operations to be properly done."

Mr. D. Narayana Raju :—" May I know whether according to the original programme the settlement operations have to come to a close during the current fasli ? "

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks :—" That may have been an optimistic anticipation, Sir."

Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo :—" Regarding item No. 1 in the reply may I know whether the Bodhokimedi estate is surveyed under the provisions of Chapter II of the Estates Land Act and may I know whether the operations will stop with survey or record of rights or also settlement of rents ? "

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks :—" I must ask for notice, Sir. I do not recollect."

Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo :—" May I ask whether the Leader of the House knows that survey and record of rights form part of the operations and that it would be a hardship on the ryots to effect only survey, leaving aside record of rights ? "

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks :—" I do not fully follow the hon. Member, but I note his opinion in the matter."

Mr. D. Narayana Raju :—" May I know whether the settlement parties will be instructed to complete all the fair accounts on the basis of the existing rates, leaving alteration of rates to be settled later on ? "

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks :—" The present instructions are to that effect."

[19th March 1929

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—"May I ask, with reference to the settlement operations in South Kanara, whether they consist only in bringing books up to date or also of revising, the classification and altering the rates of assessment ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"They are at present engaged in writing up changes and dealing with objections from those concerned, but whether they will be alteration of rates is a matter for the future."

Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU :—"May I take it that the Government have no idea of postponing these operations till a Land Revenue Bill is brought into effect or have they got any idea of bringing in a Land Revenue Bill ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"The operations in progress are necessary for the administration whether there is a Land Revenue Bill or not."

Wild animals

Issue of gun licences for protection against wild animals in the Kottayam taluk, Malabar.

* 1780 *Q.*—Mr. K. UPPI SAHIB : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to call for the information and state—

(*a*) how many persons and cattle have been killed by tigers and wild animals in Malabar, especially in the Kottayam taluk of Malabar district during 1928 ;

(*b*) how many applications for gun licence from the interior amsams of the said taluk were received by the District Magistrate of Malabar in 1928 and how many of them were granted and how many were rejected ;

(*c*) whether Government have received any complaints that wild animals do great havoc to agriculturists in the amsams of Arlam, Thillangeri, Kizhoor and Kannavam and other neighbouring amsams ;

(*d*) what is the number of gun licence-holders in those amsams ; and

(*e*) why more licences have not been issued ?

A.—(*a*) Nineteen persons were reported to have been killed by wild animals and snakes in the Kottayam taluk during 1928—one by an elephant, five by tigers and thirteen by snakes. The total number of persons reported to have been killed by wild animals in the whole district during 1928 was 193 (seven by elephants, five by tigers, three by other animals and 178 by snakes). The number of cattle reported to have been killed by wild animals in the Kottayam taluk during the year was 420 and the total for the whole district was 2,081.

(*b*), (*d*) & (*e*) A report has been called for.

(*c*) No.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—"In view of the fact that such a large number of persons as 193 were killed in the Kottayam taluk and about 2,081 were killed by wild animals in the whole district, may I know from the Government what steps they have taken to prevent this sort of ravage by wild animals in the district ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"I can only say that Government give rewards to those who kill animals."